

Strategies! Strategies! Strategies!

Strengthen Your WRITING INSTRUCTION to Significantly Increase Students' Writing Skills (Grades 6-12)



A Unique One-Day Seminar Presented by

Mary Ellen Ledbetter

National Presenter, Author and Outstanding Secondary English/Language Arts Teacher

Specifically Designed for English/Language Arts Educators Serving Grades 6-12

Fitting it all in – how to teach your numerous ELA requirements, achieve high-quality writing results from all your students and greatly reduce your take-home paper load

Practical strategies for integrating literature, grammar/mechanics and vocabulary into your writing lessons

Strategies to teach argumentative, expository, narrative, literary analysis, and comparison of texts, along with exemplary student samples of each to use for teaching and modeling

Quick and motivating engagement strategies that get students started on a writing assignment as soon as they walk into your room

California

Anaheim – October 30

Fresno – October 28

Pasadena – October 31
(Arcadia)

San Diego – October 29

Hawaii

Honolulu – November 1

Graduate Credits Available
See page 6 for details

'Thank you, Mary Ellen, for a content-packed seminar! These strategies will have an immediate impact on my students' writings.'

– SHARON MCCULLAN, TEACHER

Ten Key Benefits of Attending

'The best seminar I have attended. Both Mary Ellen's personality and the content shared were fantastic!'

– KERI MYONES,
ENGLISH TEACHER



Who Should Attend

Grades 6-12 English/
Language Arts Teachers,
Classroom Teachers,
Content-Area Teachers,
Literacy Coaches, and
Administrators

1. **Highly Effective Strategies to Significantly Increase Your Students' Writing Skills**

Systematic and proven approaches for strengthening your students' writing ... Practical strategies to get powerful results while creating a productive learning environment with achievable goals for all students in your ELA classes

2. **Successfully Integrate Your ELA Objectives to Teach the Writing Skills Students are Expected to Master**

With all you have to teach, it's hard to fit it all in – learn how you can, with a strategic plan for introducing, individualizing, practicing, and mastering writing expectations using your ELA materials and literature

3. **Reduce Your Take-Home Paper Load and Increase Student Responsibility**

Learn how to break down writing assignments into manageable parts, give students feedback during class at each stage of the process and guide them into any needed revision at every level to ensure confidence and success

4. **Argumentative, Expository, Literary Analysis, and Narrative Modes of Writing**

Models of writing that address prompts and provide effective, research-based planning strategies that will scaffold the assignments so that students no longer will complain that they have "nothing to write about"

5. **Numerous Interactive Mini-Lessons for Grammar/Mechanics**

Specific strategies to teach students the mechanics of writing sentences and paragraphs that are clear and precise ... In-class mini-lessons that address mistakes from run-ons and fragments to subject/verb agreement and commas and many more

6. **Respond to Reading Through Writing**

Literature skills sheets to teach students to apply literary concepts in their own writing ... Help students better identify and apply the literary concepts you want them to use in their writing

7. **Increase Students' Vocabulary**

Discover easy, doable and fun ways to help students consistently use more sophisticated vocabulary in their writing and understand the meaning and use of more complex words in their reading

8. **How to Effectively Use Student-Interactive Rubrics that are Much More than Mere Checklists**

Engage students in real revision using interactive rubrics that require them to prove that all elements of high-quality writing are included in their papers as they move through the process

9. **Strategies You Can Use or Adapt to Fit Your ELA Program**

Student-proven lesson plans that include step-by-step outlines of how to make all the pieces of your ELA fit together in a workable, doable and successful program ... Includes suggestions for mini-lessons and assessment

10. **Focused Peer Feedback that Works**

ELA standards call for active class discussion that teaches students how to learn from each other ... Learn a peer feedback process that really gets students involved in listening to each other, reading peer writing and giving specific feedback for improvement

Outstanding Strategies You Can Use Immediately

What You Will Learn ...

- **Discover timesaving strategies** that will greatly increase students' writing skills and enable you to fit in all the ELA standards you are required to teach
- **Practical, systematic and proven approaches** for strengthening your writing instruction and actively engaging all your students in the writing process
- Teach students to **read and revise their writing** using interactive rubrics that are much more than checklists
- **Short, easy-to-implement strategies to introduce or review literary concepts** before asking students to apply their knowledge to lengthy, even more rigorous texts
- **How to use exemplary student models and analysis** for all modes of writing including argumentative, expository, narrative, literary analysis, and comparison of two texts
- Lesson plans you can use or adapt to **successfully integrate all the writing skills** students need
- Strategies that will allow you **more time to teach** the required writing expectations
- **Conferencing strategies** to give students the immediate feedback needed to improve writing
- How you can organize your class time to **fit in your ELA standards**
- **Literary analysis strategies** to strengthen students' writing
- **Quick and easy mini-lessons** for the literary, grammatical and vocabulary-based concepts you teach



'This seminar has ready-to-implement strategies and rubrics. It is so nice to learn from a fantastic teacher, a master of her craft.'

– ANGIE PITTMAN, ENGLISH TEACHER

Practical Ideas and Strategies

Do you sometimes feel that you are spending more time reading and grading your students' writing than they did before they turned it in? Do you spend hours planning to find creative ways to fit in all the skills that are now required, only to spend even more hours reading papers that are missing critical elements? If so, this seminar will turn that around! In this idea-packed seminar, you will discover how to strategically take your students to the next level of writing with daily, easy-to-use instructional techniques that will work in your ELA classroom. **Mary Ellen Ledbetter**, outstanding national writing expert, will demonstrate what she has found to be successful with students in grades 6-12. She will share step-by-step student routines and lessons that seamlessly integrate writing, literature, literary concepts, grammar/mechanics, vocabulary, and interactive student rubrics. You will learn how to implement peer feedback, discussion techniques and student conferences during class time that will give students the immediate feedback they need to revise and improve their writing on the spot. Your paper load will decrease and students' writing skills will increase! Join Mary Ellen for a day filled with dozens of practical and doable strategies to strengthen your writing instruction and see powerful results!



A Message From Seminar Leader, Mary Ellen Ledbetter



Uniquely Qualified Instructor

Mary Ellen Ledbetter is an outstanding English/language arts teacher and national presenter. She is well-known for her fast-paced and strategy-packed seminars that focus on helping students significantly improve their writing skills while reducing teacher take-home paper load. Mary Ellen's wealth of experience in secondary ELA classrooms has given her the ability to try dozens of ideas with students – she knows what works and what doesn't. She will give you numerous strategies you can use to help your students reach the writing levels required. She is the author of *Strategies! Strategies! Strengthen Your WRITING INSTRUCTION to Significantly Increase Students' Writing Skills (Grades 6-12)*, the extensive resource handbook you will receive at the seminar.

You won't want to miss this outstanding opportunity with Mary Ellen to receive dozens of ideas and strategies you can use to strengthen all your students' writing while saving you valuable time!

Dear Colleague:

English teachers across the country are faced with an overwhelming amount of content and skills to teach connected to writing, reading, grammar, vocabulary, and on top of all that, mountains of student papers to read and grade. In my work with teachers, I hear over and over, "How do I fit everything in?" I have come to believe that – quite simply – we, as teachers, are assuming too much of the responsibility. We are meant to be facilitators assisting students not only in discovering the many facets of any concept, but in synthesizing and applying that knowledge to their work. Therefore, I have developed this new seminar to help you discover how you can organize your instruction to fit more into class time, increase student responsibility, reduce your paper load, and most importantly, significantly improve student writing.

During this strategy-packed day, I will give you what I have found really works to increase students' motivation to write and improve the quality of their writing. We will look at viable options for time management that will allow you to teach each aspect of ELA in a manner that will flow seamlessly from writing to literature to grammar to assessment. I will share how you can actively engage students in revising their own writing, give meaningful feedback to peers and how to grade students for inclusion of critical elements in their work, all during class time for immediate student feedback and revision.

I am excited to share with you what I have found works to greatly increase students' writing skills in grades 6-12. Please join me and discover effective and practical strategies to help all your students improve their writing.

Sincerely,

Mary Ledbetter

P.S. I promise you will leave with **practical strategies you can use immediately** in your grades 6-12 ELA classes.

"I will share how you can actively engage students in revising their own writings, give meaningful feedback to peers and how to grade students for inclusion of critical elements in their work, all during class time for immediate student feedback and revision."

What Your Colleagues Say About Mary Ellen Ledbetter

*"I loved all of the different ideas and strategies that we were shown. I plan on implementing many of them in my classroom to **encourage my students to enjoy the writing process** and to become better writers. Thank you so much!"*

– Jen Harrington, 6th Grade English Teacher

*"Through passion, the use of humor, and her own 'bag of tricks,' **Mary made writing instruction clear and ready to use tomorrow!**"*

– Caitlyn Loew, Writing Teacher

*"In addition to the helpful materials, Mary Ellen **provided much-needed motivation**. I am looking forward to introducing some new strategies in the classroom. Thank you!"*

– Lisa Fiduccia, Middle School ELA



*"Mary Ellen was both **personable and knowledgeable!** This was a wonderful seminar and I will be using several of her strategies in my own classroom."*

– Monique Drummond, English Teacher

*"I'm so **excited to incorporate these ideas into my classes**, including the ideas for small writing tasks during conferencing. Loved Mary Ellen's personality and charisma. Fun!"*

– Elizabeth Mathews, 8th Grade English Teacher

*"Mary Ellen's seminar provided **numerous strategies for teachers to use right away** with students. I appreciated the specificity and great examples."*

– Denise Mesdjian, English Teacher

*"Once again Mary Ellen provided **relevant and realistic strategies** for effective Language Arts instruction. Knowing that there are creative, fun ways to hold students accountable gives me renewed motivation!"*

– Regina Pasqualone, Teacher

Special Benefits of Attending



Online Learning

BER offers educators a wide range of online courses that are affordable, fun, fast, and convenient. BER is now offering On Demand Video-Based courses. You may earn optional graduate-level credits for most courses. See the catalog of available courses at www.ber.org/online

On-Site Training

Most BER seminars can be brought to your school or district. See the options at www.ber.org/onsite or call 877-857-8964 to speak to one of our On-Site Training Consultants.

Extensive Resource Handbook

Each participant will receive an extensive resource handbook specifically designed for this seminar. The handbook includes:

- Dozens of student writing samples – argumentative, expository, literary analysis, narrative, and comparison of texts – to use immediately as models in your classrooms
- Motivational engagement strategies that can be used to focus your class at the beginning of periods or as entire lessons
- New, student-friendly techniques to approach each aspect of grammar/mechanics
- Numerous literature assignments that will enhance any short story or novel unit
- Sample lesson plans that will help you “fit it all in”

Meet and Share

This seminar provides a wonderful opportunity for participants to meet and share ideas with other educators interested in enhancing their writing instruction to increase their grades 6-12 students’ writing skills.

Consultation Available

Mary Ellen Ledbetter will be available at the seminar for consultation regarding your questions and the unique needs of your writing program.

Meet Inservice Requirements / Earn State CEUs

Participants will receive a certificate of participation that may be used to verify continuing education hours.

Earn One to Four Graduate Semester Credits



Up to four graduate level professional development credits are available with an additional fee and completion of follow-up practicum activities. Details for direct enrollment with Brandman University, part of the Chapman University system, will be available at this program.

Can't Attend?

Other Professional Development Options:

Related Online Courses

Related On Demand Video-Based Online Learning courses, *Strategies! Strategies! Strategies! Significantly Increase Students' Writing Skills*, for Grades 6-12, *Strengthening Your Students' Writing Skills by Teaching Smarter, Not Harder*, for Grades 6-12, and other writing-related courses, are available for immediate registration.

To enroll, visit www.ber.org/online



Strategies! Strategies! Strategies! Strengthen Your WRITING INSTRUCTION to Significantly Increase Students' Writing Skills (Grades 6-12)

Registration (WWLOF1)

- 1. **Anaheim, CA** – October 30, 2019
- 2. **Fresno, CA** – October 28, 2019
- 3. **Honolulu, HI** – November 1, 2019
- 4. **Pasadena (Arcadia), CA** – October 31, 2019
- 5. **San Diego, CA** – October 29, 2019

FIRST NAME	M.I.	LAST NAME	
POSITION, SUBJECT TAUGHT			GRADE LEVEL
SEMINAR LOCATION NUMBER: _____ (Please see list above)			

List additional registrants on a copy of this form

SCHOOL NAME	
SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS	
CITY & STATE	ZIP CODE
SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER	HOME PHONE NUMBER
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Registration confirmations are sent via e-mail.
If you would like a confirmation, please provide your e-mail address.

E-MAIL ADDRESS	
HOME MAILING ADDRESS	
CITY & STATE	ZIP CODE

IMPORTANT: PRIORITY ID CODE: EWWLOF1

METHOD OF PAYMENT – Team Discount Available


The registration fee is \$279 per person, for teams of three or more registering at the same time, the fee is \$259 per person. **Payment is due prior to the program.** No cash please.


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FOUR EASY WAYS TO REGISTER:

 REGISTER ONLINE at: www.ber.org

 FAX this form to: 1-425-453-1134

 PHONE toll-free: 1-800-735-3503 (Weekdays 6 am - 5 pm Pacific Time)

 MAIL this form to: **Bureau of Education & Research**
915 118th Avenue SE * PO Box 96068
Bellevue, WA 98009-9668

Program Hours

All seminars are scheduled 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Check-in 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Fee

The registration fee is \$279 per person, \$259 per person for groups of three or more registering at the same time. Call us at 1-800-735-3503 for groups of ten or more. **Payment is due prior to the program.** No cash please. Fee includes seminar registration, morning coffee and tea, a personalized certificate of participation, and an extensive resource handbook.

Meeting Sites and Hotel Accommodations

Seminars will be held at the following sites:

- Anaheim: Red Lion, (714) 750-2801
- Fresno: Fairfield Inn & Suites – Airport, (559) 825-5200
- Honolulu: Hyatt Regency Waikiki, (808) 923-1234
- Pasadena: Embassy Suites – Arcadia, (626) 445-8525
- San Diego: Crowne Plaza, (619) 297-1101

If needed, please make your own hotel reservations by calling the appropriate hotel listed above.

Cancellation/Substitutions:

100% of your paid registration fee will be refunded if you can't attend and notify us at least 10 days before the conference. Late cancellations will be refunded less a \$15 service fee. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge.

Program Guarantee

We stand behind the high quality of our programs by providing the following unconditional guarantee: If you are not satisfied with this program, we'll give you a 100% refund of your registration fee.

Further Questions

Call the Bureau of Education & Research (800) 735-3503 or visit us online at www.ber.org



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Strengthen Your **WRITING INSTRUCTION:** Strategies! Strategies! Strategies! (Grades 6-12)

**Best Practices to Increase Your Students'
Writing Skills**

A Unique One-Day Seminar

Coming to a Location Near You

WWLOF1



Bureau of Education & Research

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